

Award a price to a promising Danube project during the 5th Danube Financing Dialogue: 2,000 € FOR THE BEST PROJECT PROMOTER – SPECIFICATION OF THE SELECTION CRITERIA

We constantly strive to improve the quality of this matchmaking event and this year we will present for the second time promising projects during the opening session. This year's Danube Financing Dialogue is focusing on innovative projects in the Danube Region. Therefore, we organize a **project pitch with a 2,000 Euro award** as an incentive for project developers. The price will be awarded in form of a check to the best project after the project pitch.

Project developers are invited to send their project fiche published under <http://www.danube-capacitycooperation.eu/pages/5th-danube-financing-dialogue> to financing-dialogue@metis-vienna.eu until 31. March. The assessment and selection procedure of the best project will be done in a two-stage selection procedure:

First stage selection:

The organizational team of the Danube Financing Dialogue will preselect up to 20 promising projects. Selection criteria consider:

- The geographical balance
- Ensuring that different industries and sectors are well presented relevant for the EU Strategy for the Danube Region
- Completeness of the project descriptions

Second stage selection:

The second selection stage will take place directly at the event by a jury. The jury, consisting of three distinguished experts including a representative of an European Institution:

- Edina Csanyi | European Investment Bank (EIB)
- Vasina Radoslav | Investment Manager for Innovations and Technologies Fund, on behalf of the Slovak Business Agency (SBA)
- Imre Hild | Digital Factory Accelerator

These experts will select the best project according the following criteria:

- The Innovativeness – How innovative is the product or service compared to the other projects?
- The USP – How unique is the product or service in relation to existing markets?
- The Readiness for market – How realistic is the project in relation to pre-commercial or commercial development?
- The Relevance – How relevant is the project for the Danube Region within the framework of the Danube Strategy?
- The Presentation – How well and convincing is the project presented?

Each jury member can rank the projects with up to 10 points. Their assessment will be shown to the audience and entered in a table for documentation. The project with the most points will win.

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